Three years on
Haiti Earthquake Response

World Vision
When the earthquake hit Port-au-Prince on 12 January 2010, local World Vision staff sprang into action, distributing the bottled water they had on hand. In hindsight, it seems like a small gesture, yet it marked the beginning of a three-year, US$240 million effort to help Haiti recover and rebuild following one of the worst disasters ever to hit the Western Hemisphere.

As the sun rose on 13 January, the scope of devastation became clear; so did the magnitude of the task ahead. Yet World Vision staff rose to the challenge. While maintaining our commitment to rural development through our Area Development Programmes, we launched the largest response effort in the organisation’s history.

During the emergency-relief phase of the response, World Vision distributed food to 2.5 million people in the first four months. We provided emergency shelter for 40,000 displaced families and worked to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation in displacement camps throughout Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas.

With time, our response shifted from relief and recovery to reconstruction and long-term development – helping communities build back stronger, creating safe environments where children can thrive, and empowering parents to provide for their families.

The Haiti earthquake response has been one of the most challenging humanitarian endeavours in World Vision’s 63-year history. Even before the quake, Haiti struggled with high unemployment, a weakened social infrastructure, and inadequate water and sanitation systems. The largely urban setting added a new dimension of complexity. Subsequent disasters – including a cholera outbreak and a number of severe storms – have only compounded an already difficult situation.

These challenges are reminders that, although our earthquake response has drawn to a close, our work in Haiti is far from finished. While we have managed to provide safe, long-lasting transitional shelters for more than 14,000 people, this is just a down payment on a brighter future for Haiti’s children. In the years ahead, we will continue working to ensure that children enjoy good health and access to education. Continuing to advocate on their behalf, we will insist that their voices are heard as Haiti plans for the future.

A child in Port-au-Prince raised his voice to express his gratitude: ‘I will never forget what World Vision has done for me, for all the help and support.’ Likewise, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to our donors, our local and international staff, and the World Vision Partnership. We could not have pursued this endeavour without the financial support, human resources and guidance you have provided. Thank you all for your unwavering commitment to help those in need realise brighter futures.

There is hope in Haiti. You can see it in classrooms where more children are returning to school every day. You can hear it in their voices, as they share their hopes and aspirations for the future. Haiti’s children are starting to dream again, and that should give all of us hope as we face the challenges ahead.

Sincerely,

Stefan Pleisnitzer
Regional Leader, World Vision
Latin America and the Caribbean
In the aftermath of the earthquake that struck Port-au-Prince on 12 January 2010, World Vision initiated the largest single-country disaster response in the organisation’s history. Over the last three years, as the focus has shifted from emergency relief and recovery to reconstruction and long-term development, World Vision has met the needs of several million Haitians.

The scope of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake was unprecedented in modern times. It affected one in three Haitians – approximately three million people – and claimed nearly a quarter of a million lives. Another 300,000 were injured, and 1.5 million were left homeless. Haiti’s economy, already the poorest in the Western Hemisphere, was devastated.

Mounting an effective response in the wake of this disaster proved an enormous challenge – both for World Vision and other agencies. The damage was immense. Response efforts were often hampered by political instability, weak governance and difficulty procuring goods. Efforts to transition families out of the camps have progressed much slower than anticipated, due to the lack of a clear government framework for resettlement plans. (See page 4 for more on challenges faced during the earthquake response.)

Despite these and other obstacles, World Vision remains committed to Haiti’s recovery. Our goal is not simply to return Haiti to pre-quake conditions but rather to build back stronger and more resilient. As always, children are at the centre of our plans. We have prioritised child well-being from the start, and we will continue to strive to see that all of Haiti’s children:

- enjoy good health
- are educated for life
- experience the love of God and their neighbours
- are cared for, protected and participating in their communities.

In late 2012, World Vision conducted an extensive end-of-programme evaluation, engaging nearly 1,500 adults and children, to measure the effectiveness of our earthquake response. These findings will guide the organisation’s continuing efforts to strengthen communities in Haiti – and help us respond to future emergencies with greater effectiveness.
The Haiti earthquake challenged World Vision to find innovative new solutions to the procurement and distribution of relief supplies and to collaborate extensively with UN agencies and local and international humanitarian agencies. Despite political instability, World Vision was able to work with the Haitian government on long-term economic development and access to education. Communities are telling us that long-term shelter, livelihoods and education are their greatest needs.

As the world marks the earthquake’s three-year anniversary, World Vision’s disaster response has drawn to a close. However, our development work is far from finished. We have been working in Haiti for 35 years, and we will continue to serve impoverished communities and children for years to come. Over the next three years, we aim to help children realise our child well-being aspirations (see previous page) by focusing on the following areas:

- health
- education
- child protection and participation
- sustainable livelihoods.

key achievements: January 2010 – October 2012

In the three years since the earthquake, World Vision:

- helped more than 2.5 million people receive emergency food in the initial phase of the response
- provided emergency shelter for more than 40,000 families and long-lasting transitional shelters for over 14,600 people
- transitioned 2,748 households – close to 11,000 people – out of World Vision-managed camps and offered education, livelihood support, and life skills and business training to help families rebuild their lives
- cared for 7,700 children in 30 camp-based play and educational centres
- reunited over 1,000 children with their families
- equipped 14 hospitals with life-saving supplies, enabling them to treat 412,500 cases of injury and illness
- operated a dozen mobile and static health clinics, treating 109,000 patients
- reached more than 300,000 people with cholera treatment and prevention efforts (98 per cent of all cholera cases were treated successfully)
- provided drinking water to 56 camps as well as and communities and worked with 68 Water Point Committees to ensure community ownership of local water supplies
• ensured that 90,000 people had access to mobile latrines and 132,000 people had a hygienic place to shower
• gave nearly 600,000 people essential household supplies, such as tarps, blankets, mosquito nets and flashlights
• provided 2,700 people with business development training and access to start-up funding for new business ventures
• helped 15,000 people improve their food security while rebuilding communities through cash-for-work and food-for-work programmes
• gave hundreds of adolescents vocational training in high-demand skills
• consulted nearly 10,000 children about Haiti’s reconstruction
• helped boost school attendance among surveyed households from 80 per cent to 90 per cent over the lifetime of the response.
challenges to the earthquake response

The Haiti earthquake was one of the worst disasters ever to hit the Western Hemisphere; the response has been one of the largest, most complex undertakings in World Vision’s 63-year history. Like all humanitarian agencies, we encountered significant challenges as we sought to serve earthquake-affected children and families.

An urban disaster
Disasters of this magnitude usually strike rural areas, so the largely urban setting of this disaster added a new dimension of complexity for World Vision and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The damage to Port-au-Prince was immense; the majority of poorly constructed homes and other infrastructure was damaged beyond repair. Overcrowding created an unprecedented logistical challenge, particularly with respect to coordinating emergency distributions and finding locations for displacement settlements.

Weakened governance
The earthquake struck Haiti’s capital, largely incapacitating the national government. Many government workers perished in the disaster, and several government buildings were damaged or destroyed. In addition, Haiti held a contentious presidential election less than a year after the earthquake, further fuelling uncertainty. Political instability has slowed the government’s progress in producing a clear strategy for rebuilding. Such a strategy is an essential roadmap to help NGOs contribute their services in a coordinated, effective manner.

Lack of infrastructure
Water and sanitation systems, health-care facilities and schools were stretched to the breaking point even before the earthquake. Four in five Haitians lacked access to basic sanitation. Only one in 50 adults enjoyed steady employment, and 40 per cent of children didn’t have access to formal education. As a result, the rebuilding effort in Haiti is not a matter of putting things back the way they were; Haiti’s infrastructure needs to be rebuilt almost entirely.
Unclear land tenure

The lack of legal clarity around land ownership significantly delayed the process of rebuilding homes. In some cases there were multiple claims to the same piece of land; unclear documentation made it virtually impossible to determine which claim was valid. Prior to the earthquake the majority of families in Port-au-Prince rented their homes. After the quake many of them faced a severe housing shortage and had no place to go. As time went on, many displaced families faced eviction from camps that had sprung up on privately owned land.

Secondary emergencies

Haiti has been hit with a number of secondary emergencies since the earthquake – including a cholera outbreak that started in October 2010, which has so far affected over 600,000 people.¹ A tropical storm skirted the country the following month. More recently, Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy struck Haiti, severely affecting many at-risk families who were still recovering from the earthquake. In addition to these and other disasters, the government of Haiti declared a food crisis in November 2012, announcing that nearly 4 million Haitians (38 per cent of the population) are food-insecure.²

¹ ‘Haiti Cholera Snapshot’ (Port-au-Prince: OCHA, 2012).
‘I am happy to have seen this nurse. She gave me medicines. After [the earthquake] I couldn’t find a doctor. Now I have peace because I have seen this nurse.’

—Miadelle, a pregnant mother who received prenatal care at a World Vision mobile clinic

Even before the earthquake, two in five households in Haiti were unable to meet their basic nutritional needs. One in three children under age 5 suffered from stunting. A heavily privatised and unregulated health-care system meant that many families could not afford basic health care.

The 2010 earthquake further jeopardised the health of children. Two million people were left in dire need of food assistance. More than 50 hospitals and health centres were heavily damaged or destroyed, and the cholera epidemic that came on the heels of the earthquake strained an already incapacitated health-care system.

Ensuring children get the nutrition they need

In the first four months of the disaster response World Vision reached 2.5 million people with life-saving food distributions. Over time, distributions became more targeted, ensuring that Haiti’s most vulnerable populations — including pregnant and lactating women, children under age 5 and people with disabilities — received assistance. In the first half of 2010, these ‘safety net’ distributions reached 219,430 people with 11,400 metric tonnes of food.

World Vision also worked to ensure long-term food security, helping families feed their children nutritious foods that keep them healthy. Some 15,000 people – half of them women – were employed through cash-for-work and food-for-work programmes.
Household food security remains a challenge in Haiti. According to a recent report from the CNSA (the national coordination unit for food security in the Haitian Ministry of Agriculture), nearly 4 million Haitians (38 per cent of the population) are food insecure. Furthermore, one in three children under five suffers from chronic malnutrition; 50 per cent of pregnant women and 70 per cent of children under five are anaemic; and 70 per cent of children aged 6 to 12 months suffer from iodine deficiency. The cost of hunger and malnutrition is huge, amounting to 14 per cent of the country’s gross domestic product.

However, there is reason for hope. In La Gonâve, one of the communities in which World Vision works, dietary diversity (an important measure of nutritional quality) improved from an average of five food items eaten by household members each day to seven items. On-going investments in agriculture and livelihoods will be key to ensuring long-term food security for children and their families.

Protecting children’s health

World Vision responded to the earthquake by delivering basic health-care services while working to rebuild health infrastructure in local communities. Fourteen hospitals were equipped with medical supplies, enabling them to treat 412,500 cases of injury and illness. Eleven primary health-care clinics were rehabilitated, and a transitional shelter was built to serve as a health centre – benefitting more than 54,000 people, including 5,000 children under age 5. World Vision also operated 12 static and mobile clinics for displaced families, treating more than 109,000 cases of respiratory infection, diarrhoea, malaria and other ailments.

A number of interventions were undertaken to prioritise the well-being of children, including:

- vaccinating over 11,000 women of childbearing age, 43 per cent of whom were pregnant, against tetanus
- providing vitamin A supplements to 2,700 lactating women and 17,000 children under age 5
- deworming over 7,000 children under 5
- administering nearly 53,000 vaccinations against common childhood diseases
- facilitating more than 2,500 Mothers’ Club sessions, reaching 30,000 women with information on prenatal care, child health, infant feeding and more.

did you know?

Innovation at work

To ensure rapid, fair distribution of aid, World Vision launched Last Mile Mobile Solutions (LMMS). This innovation, which uses handheld machines to scan beneficiary photo identity cards at aid distribution points, not only reduces fraud by ensuring that the right rations and amounts are automatically provided to the correct families, but it also cuts out the administrative paperwork normally generated at distributions and allows for rapid reporting.
One of the most pervasive threats to children in Haiti is a lack of sanitation. Even before the earthquake four in five people lacked access to adequate sanitation – a situation made even worse for those living in Haiti’s many displacement camps. During the earthquake response World Vision provided mobile latrines for nearly 90,000 displaced persons, along with enough hygienic places to shower for 132,000 residents. Nearly 8,300 hand-washing stations were positioned near latrines and oral rehydration points. At least 5,000 students received vital information on hygiene through a peer-driven awareness effort.

Cholera outbreak

Following the earthquake, people were living in close, unhygienic quarters with damaged and already limited water and sanitation infrastructure. These conditions allowed cholera, which is transmitted by contaminated water, to spread rapidly.

Prior to the epidemic that started in October 2010, Haiti had not reported a single case of cholera in 50 years. Yet, within one month, the disease had spread to all 10 departments of the country. By the time the outbreak was over, more than 500,000 people had been infected, and 7,500 had died as of September 2012.

World Vision responded immediately, deploying medical teams, medical supplies and equipment to affected areas and working to prevent further spread of the disease. World Vision reached more than 300,000 vulnerable people with prevention efforts and developed a detailed, government-of-Haiti approved two-point integrated referral system for treating cholera patients.

By June 2011, World Vision had treated more than 6,300 confirmed cases of cholera, with a 98 per cent success rate. By treating those infected and collaborating with national and local governments, cluster partners, and camp committees to launch prevention efforts to protect vulnerable populations, countless lives were saved.

By laying the groundwork for a stronger health infrastructure, organisations like World Vision can ensure that Haiti’s children can access the care they need. One important way of doing this is by building capacity of local health personnel. World Vision has provided training for midwives, doctors, nurses and community health workers throughout Haiti. Even after our programming has ended, many of the medical staff trained by World Vision will continue to work for Haiti’s Ministry of Health or other agencies operating in the area. The skill and training they received will continue to benefit the communities they serve long after our earthquake response is complete.

One encouraging sign that the capacity of Haiti’s health infrastructure is improving can be found in communities like La Gonâve, where fewer families are dependent on NGOs like World Vision for basic health care. In May 2010, one in five residents reported seeking medical care from NGO clinics. By October 2012, 90 per cent were able to access care from local hospitals, and only 1 per cent sought care from an NGO clinic.
‘Going to school is my favourite thing to do. In school I have friends. I’m always on time with my homework. I want to keep studying, and I want to go to university.’

— Georgeline, 12, one of 680 earthquake-affected children in Corail to benefit from a new school built by World Vision

The 2010 earthquake dealt a severe blow to Haiti’s already fragile education system. It is estimated that 38,000 students and 1,300 teachers perished in the quake. Some 80 per cent of schools in Haiti were severely damaged or destroyed; the prospect of rebuilding under these circumstances was daunting at best. One year later, only a small percentage of schools had been cleared of rubble.

World Vision responded with a two-pronged approach: (1) helping schools pick up the pieces, and (2) offering interim educational opportunities, along with psychosocial support, for quake-affected children.

Educating children

No disaster should disrupt a child’s education. With this in mind, World Vision established 17 Early Childhood Development Learning Centres — providing learning opportunities for nearly 1,200 children and helping them regain a sense of normalcy. Parents in particular viewed the learning centres as a great success, with 86 per cent rating them ‘excellent’. Children who participated were reported to be happier, more confident and more social as a result.

To ensure that children are prepared for future emergencies, World Vision developed a Disaster Risk Reduction curriculum in Creole. This easy-to-teach curriculum, endorsed by the government of Haiti, uses 20-minute lessons to teach children how to prepare for and respond to disaster situations. Nearly 400 teachers were trained to use the curriculum, which benefitted more than 18,000 children.

To help get schools operating again after the earthquake, World Vision constructed and rehabilitated several school buildings, including a 15-classroom structure in Corail benefiting 1,200 children. Many of these schools were constructed to be accessible for people with disabilities. Additionally, World Vision rebuilt and equipped the Institut Montfort, the only school in Haiti for hearing- and sight-impaired students. More than 100 schools received educational materials, furniture and other resources.
In order to help students return to the classroom, World Vision established a school feeding programme, offering daily hot meals to nearly 250,000 students at approximately 850 schools. Teachers reported improved participation and academic participation as a result of this initiative, which lasted from January to March 2011.

Today, more school-age children are attending school, thanks in part to the efforts of World Vision and other humanitarian agencies. In a comprehensive assessment of our earthquake response, surveyed households indicated an increase in school attendance, from 80 per cent in May 2010 to 90 per cent in August 2012. Children demonstrated a strong awareness of the importance of education, ranking schooling as their most important need following the earthquake.

Helping children heal

In order to provide children with an outlet to process the traumatic effects of the earthquake, World Vision trained 225 staff in psychological first aid. Priority was given to staff working directly with children and mothers of young children. More than 330 animators who served in World Vision’s Child-Friendly Spaces (see page 13) were trained in child protection and psycho-social support, and 7,731 children were educated about their rights and the dangers of child trafficking.

Equipping Haiti’s next generation for the future

Vocational training is one of the best ways to help individuals increase their chances of earning a living wage. World Vision identified a number of high-demand skills in Haiti, and then contracted with local, certified training centres to prepare adolescents to enter the job market. Some 570 received training in electricity, plumbing, masonry, carpentry, tailoring and other skills. In addition, World Vision established 30 youth clubs to offer training and professional development opportunities for 13 to 18 year olds.
World Vision is a Christian organisation committed to serving all people, regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender. Our staff demonstrated this commitment throughout our disaster response. In the first hours after the earthquake, local staff – many of whom had been adversely affected by the disaster themselves – began distributing what supplies they had on hand. Altogether, over 900 passionate, committed staff from around the globe contributed to World Vision’s relief and rebuilding efforts in Haiti.

As in all our work, World Vision seeks to demonstrate Christian values such as solidarity with the poor, a special concern for children, respect for the equal dignity of women and men, a willingness to share what we have with others, and an active compassion for all without discrimination or conditions. We seek to be an agent of healing and restoration as we serve children and families in Haiti.

Reuniting families

The bond between a child and his or her family is sacred. Yet, for thousands of children, this bond was violently disrupted on 12 January 2010. After being separated from their families, many children made their way to the Dominican Republic, where they had no protection and no safe place to stay.

World Vision was one of eight lead agencies working in coordination with UNICEF to reunite children with their families. During the course of these efforts, we successfully reunited 1,042 children – the highest reunification rate among the lead agencies. Reunited families received vital supplies including pots, mats, hygiene kits and more.
Caring for the environment

Haiti’s natural environment was compromised long before the earthquake struck. Some 97 per cent of Haiti is deforested, leaving large areas vulnerable to flooding, erosion and mudslides. In keeping with our holistic model of development, World Vision seeks to care for the whole person and his or her environment. For this reason, one of our priorities following the earthquake was to help restore an environment worth caring for.

As part of this effort, World Vision planted over 300,000 trees, helping to reduce erosion and prevent flooding. Some 10,000 quake-affected families received fuel-efficient stoves. When a liquid waste site near Port-au-Prince was damaged, causing widespread contamination, World Vision provided technical support to the government of Haiti, assisting approximately 1.3 million people with improved health and environmental conditions.

Aspiring to a brighter future

Creating a sense of hope for the future, while intangible, is essential to effective disaster response. Those who possess hope and aspirations for the future are far more resilient in the face of disaster than those who have none.

As our earthquake response drew to a close, World Vision sought to measure the resilience of those affected by the disaster. Children who were surveyed shared hopes of finishing school so they could enjoy a successful career. Many expressed a desire to see long-term improvements in their country – an encouraging sign that they were beginning to dream about the future again.
One of World Vision’s greatest priorities in any disaster response is creating a safe, welcoming environment for children, where they can live without fear of exploitation. We believe children are a community’s greatest asset, and we strive to make sure their voices are heard as we work towards a better future.

Protecting children

The earthquake in Haiti exposed dangerous gaps in child protection; many children, especially those separated from their families, were far too vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. World Vision responded by establishing safe environments for children – from Child-Friendly Spaces to durable shelter for displaced families.

In total, World Vision operated 30 Child-Friendly Spaces, offering 7,731 children a place where they could regain a sense of normalcy. These spaces provided psycho-social support, structured learning opportunities and recreational activities. Eventually, 11 Child-Friendly Spaces were transitioned to local community ownership. These spaces continue to serve over 2,500 children.

In the initial aftermath of the earthquake, World Vision provided emergency shelter for more than 40,000 families. By 2011, World Vision was active in 18 displacement camps, serving approximately 60,000 residents. Many of these camps were run by self-appointed management committees. While such committees often make vital contributions – particularly in rural and agrarian communities – many of the urban camps in and around Port-au-Prince lacked the cohesiveness and solidarity necessary for effective camp management. In many cases, committee leaders had no accountability to camp residents and took advantage of displaced families through sexual and financial exploitation.

‘Before the quake, I was a businesswoman. I could provide for my children. Now I feel like it would be better for me to be dead than to not provide for my children.’

—Lomene, mother of three

aspiration #4:
Haiti’s children are cared for, protected and participating in their communities
In response, World Vision implemented several measures to protect children and families.

- World Vision embedded Humanitarian Accountability Team members into all our programming and established several mechanisms for reporting abuse, including complaint boxes in every camp and a toll-free hotline.
- World Vision’s Protection Unit followed up on alleged cases of abuse and offered advocacy training to camp residents.
- World Vision implemented Last Mile Mobile Solutions (LMMS) in order to automate the beneficiary registration and verification process, thus mitigating the risk of corruption.

By 2012, the number of camps where World Vision operated had been reduced to 15. As displaced families transitioned out of camps – in some cases voluntarily and in others because of forced eviction by landowners – World Vision worked to provide longer-term shelter solutions. For example, we constructed 2,782 transitional shelters – each of which lasts up to 10 years, is earthquake resistant and can withstand hurricane-force winds. Today, these shelters are among the most durable built in Haiti. They will provide children and their families with a safe place to live for years to come.

Supporting parents and caregivers

Prior to the earthquake, only half of school-aged children in Haiti attended school. One reason for this was that few parents could afford to pay school fees – which varied widely, given the heavily privatised nature of Haiti’s educational system. Only one in 50 Haitians enjoyed a steady, wage-earning job before the quake hit, making school a luxury few could afford.

In order for Haiti to recover fully, it is vital that parents are empowered to provide for their families. With this in mind, World Vision sought to deliver short-term livelihood opportunities while improving access to more traditional sources of income in the long term.

World Vision disbursed US$8.6 million dollars to beneficiaries through cash-for-work activities. Nearly 70 per cent of families who participated were able to use the income they earned to send their children to school. In addition, cash-for-work programming helped rehabilitate community infrastructure – including work on 55 kilometres of roads, 130,000 cubic metres of canals, and the removal of 31,000 cubic metres of debris.

did you know?

Innovation at work

In partnership with Digicel and local banks, World Vision introduced mobile payments to our cash-based programming in Haiti. Mobile payments proved a cost-effective means of ensuring safe and timely payments and reducing the burden on beneficiaries, who no longer had to travel to physical distribution points.
Some 2,700 entrepreneurs – three-quarters of whom were female – received business development training and cash grants to start a business. World Vision also established 43 savings groups with close to 1,000 total participants.

Nearly 19,000 people received agricultural training, and 26,000 households benefitted from agricultural inputs and tools – helping families to ensure their own food security and to earn income.

Amplifying the voices of children

To bring about lasting, transformative change and ensure that policies, systems and structures are just, the voices of children must be heard. Throughout the earthquake response World Vision advocated for Haiti’s children at the local, national and international levels. Whenever possible, we sought to create opportunities for children to speak for themselves.

Through the Global Movement for Children, World Vision and several partner agencies helped ensure that post-disaster recovery and reconstruction decisions made by the government of Haiti and the international community addressed the needs and interests of children. Nearly 10,000 children were consulted as part of this effort.

In addition, nine children were chosen from World Vision and other partner agencies to present during a high-level youth forum at the United Nations headquarters in New York City in 2011.

The concerns of children were compiled and presented to the president of Haiti and to the national parliament, where a commitment was secured to include children in planning for the country’s future. As a result of child-led advocacy efforts, Haiti’s first lady agreed to speak out on behalf of school transportation for children with disabilities.
During the past three years, World Vision has integrated accountability and transparency into every aspect of our earthquake response. We are responsible to our donors and beneficiaries to deliver the most effective relief and development programming possible.

Ensuring the highest standards

World Vision is a signatory to the following interagency accountability initiatives:

• The International NGO Charter of Accountability
• The People in Aid Code of Best Practice
• The Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movements and NGOs in Disaster Relief

World Vision also hosted the Sphere Project in Haiti, supporting the establishment of minimum standards for disaster response. As part of this effort, World Vision offered capacity-building services to other aid agencies, both local and international, and to the government of Haiti.

Listening to beneficiaries

World Vision conducted a comprehensive review of its three-year response, interviewing close to 1,500 adults and children. This evaluation provided invaluable feedback that will help us shape our long-term development initiatives in Haiti and future emergency response efforts around the world. For example, the report indicated high levels of satisfaction with World Vision’s cholera treatment programme. It confirmed the success of our efforts to promote hygiene; 99 per cent of respondents reported using soap or detergent to wash their hands. The report also revealed challenges that demand on-going attention – for example, limited income-earning opportunities in the face of rising food prices. Finally, the report highlighted key lessons for future emergency response efforts, such as the importance of prioritising the prevention of sexual exploitation and gender-based violence from the onset.
Funds raised:
US$229.1 million

Fundraising and administration (overhead):†
US$11.7 million

Funding for response programme
US$217.4 million

EXPENDITURES:††
Advocacy $1.4 million
Disaster mitigation $2.9 million
Economic development $3.9 million
Education $5.2 million
Food security $70.3 million
Non-food relief items $16.5 million
Health $7.4 million
Infrastructure $9.2 million
Leadership development $613,000
Protection programming $6.9 million
Shelter $32.2 million
Water and sanitation $17.5 million
Monitoring and evaluation $2.4 million
Programme management: $25.6 million
Resources distributed through partner organisations †††† $17.1 million

TOTAL SPENT ON PROGRAMMING:
US$219.1 million

† Funds raised: actual funds raised through 30 September 2012 (all numbers are unaudited)
†† Overhead: actual overhead through 30 September 2012 (all numbers are unaudited)
††† Expenditures: actual expenditures through 30 September 2012 (all numbers are unaudited)
†††† Resources distributed through partner organisations: This total reflects cash raised through multi-organisation fundraisers and dispersed to participating charities as well as product donations provided to partner organisations for distribution in Haiti.

Donations by country

United States 47.8%
Canada 24.9%
Australia 4.6%
United Kingdom 4.4%
Taiwan 2.4%
Switzerland 1.2%
Austria, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Spain 1.6%
Netherlands 1.1%
Korea 1.9%
Japan 1.3%
Hong Kong 2.5%
Germany 6.1%
Every day, hope is returning to Haiti. Parents are beginning to dream about the future again. Displaced families are transitioning to safer, more durable homes. Children are returning to school.

Despite significant progress, many challenges remain, as evidenced by the food crisis declared near the end of 2012. The world must not turn its back on Haiti now, three years after the devastating earthquake. Reconstruction will take years. Leaving Haiti better than before will take decades.

Over the last three years World Vision has helped to ease the burden for thousands of children and their families. With our donors’ help, we have provided for basic human needs, protected and educated children, amplified the voices of those affected by the earthquake and helped families begin to rebuild their lives.

Today, World Vision’s disaster response has drawn to a close, but our commitment to the people of Haiti remains as strong as ever. World Vision has worked alongside impoverished communities in Haiti for 35 years; this work will continue until Haiti’s children and families are able to flourish on their own.

While, historically, World Vision’s development efforts have tended to focus on rural communities, Haiti’s recovery requires an on-going commitment to its urban population as well. Therefore, we will leverage what we have learned through our urban disaster-relief efforts to support long-term development initiatives in and around Port-au-Prince.

Going forward, our work in Haiti will focus on sustainable livelihoods, education for life, good health, and child protection and participation. World Vision will work to create new opportunities for parents to earn a living wage while continuing to advocate with the government of Haiti to improve livelihoods and education. The country’s capacity for health care and child protection must also expand. Children’s voices must be heard – and listened to – in the halls of power: World Vision is committed to all of these vital efforts, even as we narrow our response work to focus on activities with the greatest potential to improve child well-being for the long term.

The earthquake response that began on 12 January 2010 was the largest single-country disaster-relief effort in World Vision’s history. We thank our donors from every corner of the world for their faith in us, their generosity and their commitment to restoring a brighter future for Haiti’s children.
For more information, visit www.wvi.org

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World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world’s most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.